

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 438

By Pody

A RESOLUTION to honor the Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation, Inc., and the "Call to Prayer for America."

WHEREAS, throughout the history of the United States, its citizens and inhabitants have drawn strength, hope, and guidance from prayer. From the very first Continental Congress through every form of adversity and blessing, Americans have fallen to their knees and implored God Almighty to protect their families and to heal their land; and

WHEREAS, the freedom upon which America is founded affords the right to any individual to decline to pray if he or she so desires. However, that same freedom allows those who believe in the power of prayer to utilize that great opportunity to ask God to bless and sustain our nation; and

WHEREAS, that freedom is not diminished merely because one is elected to public office. Quite the contrary, the cloak of authority placed upon the shoulders of a public servant should be an inspiration for those who believe in the power of prayer to use that great power to ask God to bless and sustain the nation they love and serve; and

WHEREAS, centuries ago, the Bible records in 2 Chronicles 7:14 that God told King Solomon: "If my people who are called by my Name humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land"; and

WHEREAS, in early 2005, a small group of members of the United States House of Representatives began meeting in Room 219 of the U.S. Capitol to pray for our nation. The location was not important, nor were the names of those who gathered there to pray. The

gravity of their meeting was derived from the humble sincerity of their belief that God could heal America; and

WHEREAS, soon thereafter, these members formed the Congressional Prayer Caucus to vigilantly watch and to protect the right of individuals in America to pray. Their vision for the caucus inspired them to form the Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation, Inc., which is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization designed to support the call of America back to prayer; and

WHEREAS, on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of March 2015, members of Congress and state legislators from across America gathered for the purpose of calling the nation back to prayer. They realized the need to call America back to prayer, not for a single day or a single month, but to pray “without ceasing”; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation, Inc., and applaud its “Call to Prayer for America” efforts across this great nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.